

SKR

Send out more horses, *skirre* the country round;
Hang those that talk of fear. *Shakeſp. Macbeth.*
To SKIRRE. *v. n.* To ſcour; to ſcud; to run in haſte.
We'll make them *skirre* away as ſwift as ſtones
Enforced from the old Alfyrian flings. *Shakeſp. Henry V.*
SKI'RRER. *n. f.* [*ſſjarum*, Latin.] A plant.
It produces its flowers in an umbel, which conſiſts of ſeveral leaves placed circularly, and expanded in form of a roſe: the empalement afterward becomes a fruit, compoſed of two narrow ſeeds, that are gibbous, and furrowed on one ſide, but plain on the other. The roots are ſhaped like long turneps, and are joined to one head. *Miller.*
Skirrets are a ſort of roots propagated by ſeed. *Mortimer.*
SKIRT. *n. f.* [*ſkirta*, Swediſh.]
1. The looſe edge of a garment; that part which hangs looſe below the waſt.
It's but a nightgown in reſpect of yours; cloth of gold and cuts, ſide ſleeves and *skirts*, round underborne with a bluſh tinfel. *Shakeſp. Much Ado about Nothing.*
As Samuel turned about to go away, he laid hold upon the *ſhirt* of his mantle, and it rent. *1 Sa. xv. 27.*
2. The edge of any part of the dreſs.
A narrow lace, or a ſmall *skirt* of ruffled linen, which runs along the upper part of the ſtays before, and croſſes the breaſt, being a part of the tucker, is called the modeſty-piece. *Addiſon.*
3. Edge; margin; border; extreme part.
He ſhould ſeat himſelf at Athie, upon the *skirt* of that un- quiet country. *Spencer on Ireland.*
Ye miſts, that riſe
From hill or ſteamy lake, duſky or grey,
'Till the fun paint your fleecy *skirts* with gold,
In honour to the world's great Author riſe. *Milton.*
Though I fled him angry, yet recall'd
To life prolong'd, and promiſ'd race, I now
Gladly behold, though but his utmoſt *skirts*
Of glory, and far off his ſteps adore. *Milt. Parad. Loſt.*
The northern *skirts* that join to Syria have entered into the conqueſts or commerce of the four great empires; but that which ſeems to have ſecured the other is the ſtony and ſandy deſerts, through which no army can paſs. *Temple.*
Upon the *skirts*
Of Arragon our ſquander'd troops he rallies. *Dryden.*
To SKIRT. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To border; to run along the edge.
Temple *skirteth* this hundred on the waſte ſide. *Carew.*
Of all theſe bounds,
With ſhadowy foreſts and with champions rich'd,
With plenteous rivers and wide *skirted* meads,
We make thee lady. *Shakeſpeare.*
The middle pair
Skirted his loins and thighs with downy gold. *Milton.*
A ſpacious circuit on the hill there ſtood,
Level and wide, and *skirted* round with wood. *Addiſon.*
SKIT'TISH. *adj.* [*ſkye*, Daniſh; *ſchew*, Dutch.]
1. Shy; eaſily frighted
A reſtiſt *skittiſh* jade had gotten a trick of riſing, ſtarting, and flying out at his own ſhadow. *L'Eſtrange.*
2. Wanton; volatile; haſty; precipitate.
Now expedition, tickling *skittiſh* ſpirits,
Sets all on hazard. *Shakeſpeare.*
He ſtill reſolv'd, to mend the matter,
'T' adhere and cleave the obſtinater;
And ſtill the *skittiſh*er and looſer,
Her freaks appear'd to fit the cloſer. *Hudibras.*
3. Changeable; ſickle.
Some men ſleep in *skittiſh* fortune's hall,
While others play the ideots in her eyes. *Shakeſpeare.*
Such as I am, all true lovers are;
Unſtaid and *skittiſh* in all notions elſe,
Save in the conſtant image of the creature
That is belov'd. *Shak. Twelfth Night.*
SKI'TTISHLY. *adv.* [from *skittiſh*.] Wantonly; uncertainly; ſickly.
SKI'TTISHNESS. *n. f.* [from *skittiſh*.] Wantonneſs; ſickle- neſs.
SKONCE. *n. f.* [See SCONCE.]
Reinard ranſacketh every corner of his wily *ſkonce*, and beſtirreth the utmoſt of his nimble ſtumps to quit his coat from their jaws. *Carew.*
SKREEN. *n. f.* [*ſſcran*, *ſſcrein*, French, which *Minſheu* derives from *ſſcreeniculum*, Latin. *Nimis violenter ut ſolet*, ſays *Skinner*, which may be true as to one of the ſenſes; but if the firſt ſenſe of *ſſcran* be a kind of coarſe ſieve or riddle, it may per- haps come, if not from *cribrum*, from ſome of the deſcendants of *cerno*.]
1. A riddle or coarſe ſieve.
A ſkuttle or *ſſcran* to rid ſoil fro' the corn. *Tuſſer.*
2. Any thing by which the fun or weather is kept off.
Shelter; concealment.
Fenc'd from day, by night's eternal *ſſcran*;
Unknown to heav'n, and to myſelf unſeen. *Dryden.*

SKY

To SKREEN. *v. a.* [from the noun.]
1. To riddle; to ſift. A term yet uſed among maſons when they ſift ſand for mortar.
2. To ſhade from ſun or light, or weather.
3. To keep off light or weather.
The curtains cloſely drawn, the light to *ſſcreen*:
Thus cover'd with an artificial night,
Sleep did his office. *Dryden.*
The waters mounted up into the air: their interpoſition be- twixt the earth and the ſun *ſſcreen* and fence off the heat, otherwiſe ſupportable. *Woodward's Natural Hiſtory.*
4. To ſhelter; to protect.
Ajax interpoſ'd
His ſevenfold ſhield, and *ſſcreen'd* Laertes' ſon,
When the inſulting Trojans urg'd him ſore. *Philips.*
He that travels with them is to *ſſcreen* them, and get them out when they have run themſelves into the briars. *Lake.*
His majeſty encouraged his ſubjects to nake mouths at their betters, and afterwards *ſſcreened* them from puniſhment. *Spett.*
The ſcales, of which the ſcarf-skin is compoſed, are de- ſigned to fence the orifices of the ſecretory ducts of the military glands, and to *ſſcreen* the nerves from external injuries. *Cheyne.*
SKUE. *adj.* [Of this word there is found no ſatisfactory deri- vation.] Oblique; ſidelong. It is moſt uſed in the adverb *aſkue*.
Several have imagined that this *ſkue* poſture of the axis is a moſt unfortunate thing; and that if the poles had been erect to the plane of the ecliptick, all mankind would have enjoyed a very paradise. *Bentley.*
To SKULK. *v. n.* To hide; to lurk in fear or malice.
Discover'd, and defeated of your prey,
You *ſkulk'd* behind the fence, and ſneak'd away. *Dryden.*
SKULL. *n. f.* [*ſkiela*, Iſlandick; *ſkutti*, Iſlandick, a head.]
1. The bone that incloſes the head: it is made up of ſeveral pieces, which, being joined together, form a conſiderable cavity, which contain the brain as in a box, and it is proportionate to the bigneſs of the brain. Its figure is round, and a little depreſſed on its ſides. The ſeveral pieces, of which the ſkull is compoſed, are joined together by ſutures, which makes it leſs apt to break: theſe pieces or bones are fix proper and two common, and each is made up of two tables, or laminae, be- tween which there is a thin and ſpongy ſubſtance, made of ſome bony fibres, which come from each lamina, called in Greek *διπλῆς*, and in Latin *medullarium*. In it are a great many veins and arteries, which bring blood for the nour- iſhment of the bones. The tables are hard and ſolid, becauſe in them the fibres of the bones are cloſe to one another. The *diploe* is ſoft, becauſe the bony fibres are at a greater diſtance from one another. The external lamina is ſmooth, and covered with the pericranium: the internal is likewise ſmooth; but on it are ſeveral furrows, made by the pulſe of the arteries of the dura mater, whilſt the cranium was ſoft and yield- ing. *Quincy.*
Some lay in dead men's *skulls*; and in thoſe holes,
Where eyes did once inhabit, there were crept,
As 'twere in ſcorn of eyes, reflecting gems. *Shakeſp. R. III.*
With redoubled ſtrokes he plies his head;
But drives the batter'd *skull* within the brains. *Dryden.*
2. [See *COLE*, a company.] A ſhoal. See SCULL.
Repair to the river where you have ſeen them ſwim in *skulls* or ſhoals. *Walter.*
SKULLCAP. *n. f.* A headpiece.
SKULLCAP. *n. f.* [*caſſida*, Latin.] A plant.
The ſlorets are longiſh, one in each ala of the leaves: the upper leaf is galeated like an helmet, with two auricles adjoin- ing: the under leaf, for the moſt part, is divided into two: the calyx, having a cover, contains a fruit reſembling the heel of a ſlipper or ſhoe. *Miller.*
SKY. *n. f.* [*ſky*, Daniſh.]
1. The region which ſurrounds this earth beyond the atmo- ſphere. It is taken for the whole region without the earth.
The mountains their broad backs upheave
Into the clouds, their tops aſcend the *ſky*. *Milton.*
The maids of Argos, who with frantic cries,
And imitated lowings, fill'd the *ſkies*. *Reſurrex.*
Raiſe all thy winds, with night involve the *ſkies*,
Sink, or diſperſe. *Dryden's ſen.*
2. The heavens.
The thunderer's bolt you know,
Sky planted, batters all rebelling coaſts. *Shakeſp. Cymbeline.*
What is this knowledge but the *ſky* ſtol'n fire,
For which the thief ſtill chain'd in ice doth ſit. *Deviſ.*
Wide is the fronting gate, and raiſ'd on high,
With adamant columns threatens the *ſky*. *Dryden.*
3. The weather.
Thou wert better in thy grave, than to answer with thy un- covered body this extremity of the *ſkies*. *Shakeſp. K. Lear.*
SKYEY. *adj.* [from *ſky*.] Not very elegantly formed.] Ethereal.
A breath thou art,
Serve to all the *ſkyey* influences,
That do this habitation, where thou keep'ſt.
Hourly afflict. *Shakeſp. Meaſure for Meaſure.*
SKY'COLOUR. *n. f.* [*ſky* and *colour*.] An azure colour; the colour of the ſky.
A ſolution as clear as water, with only a light touch of *ſky*- colour, but nothing near ſo high as the ceruleous tincture of ſilver. *Boyle.*
SKY'COLOURED. *adj.* [*ſky* and *colour*.] Blue; azure; like the ſky.
This your Ovid himſelf has hinted, when he tells us that the blue water nymphs are dreſſed in *ſkycoloured* garments. *Add.*
SKY'DYED. *adj.* [*ſky* and *dye*.] Coloured like the ſky.
There figs, *ſkydied*, a purple hue diſcloſe. *Pope.*
SKY'ED. *adj.* [from *ſky*.] Enveloped by the ſkies. This is un- uſual and unauthorized.
The pale deluge floats
O'er the *ſky'd* mountain to the ſhadowy vale. *Thomſon.*
SKY'ISH. *adj.* [from *ſky*.] Coloured by the ether; approaching the ſky.
Of this flat a mountain you have made,
T' o'er top old Pelion, or the *ſkyiſh* head
Of blue Olympus. *Shakeſp. Hamlet.*
SKY'LARK. *n. f.* [*ſky* and *lark*.] A lark that mounts and ſings.
He next proceeded to the *ſkylark*, mounting up by a proper ſcale of notes, and afterwards falling to the ground with a very eaſy deſcent. *Spettator.*
SKY'LIGHT. *n. f.* [*ſky* and *light*.] A window placed in a room, not laterally, but in the ciling.
A monſtrous fowl dropt through the *ſkylight*, near his wife's apartment. *Arbutnot, and Pope's Mart. Scriblerus.*
SKY'ROCKET. *n. f.* [*ſky* and *rocket*.] A kind of firework, which flies high and burns as it flies.
I conſidered a comet, or in the language of the vulgar a blazing ſtar, as a *ſkyrocket* diſcharged by an hand that is al- mighty. *Addiſon.*
SLAB. *n. f.*
1. A puddle. *Ainsworth.*
2. A plane of ſtone: as, a marble *slab*.
SLAB. *v. i.* [A word, I ſuppoſe, of the ſame original with *ſlabber*, or *ſlover*.] Thick; viſcous; glutinous.
Note of Turk, and Tartar's lips;
Finger of birth-ſtrangl'd babe,
Ditch-deliver'd by a drab;
Make the cruel thick and *slab*. *Shakeſp. Macbeth.*
To SLA'BER. *v. n.* [*ſlabben*, *ſlabberen*, Dutch.]
1. To let the ſpitte fall from the mouth; to drivel.
2. To ſhed or pour any thing.
To SLA'BER. *v. a.*
1. To ſneer with ſpitte.
He *ſlabbered* me all over, from cheek to cheek, with his great tongue. *Arbutnot's Hiſtory of John Bull.*
2. To ſhed; to ſpill.
The milk pan and cream pot ſo *ſlabber'd* and ſoft,
That butter is wanting, and cheeſe is half loſt. *Tiſſer.*
SLA'BERER. *n. f.* [from *ſlabber*.] He who ſlabbers.
SLA'BBY. *adj.* [The ſame with *slab*.]
1. Thick; viſcous.
In the cure of an ulcer, with a moiſt intemperies, *slabby* and greaſy medicaments are to be forborn, and drying to be uſed. *Wife's Surgery.*
2. Wet; ſloody.
When waggiſh boys the ſtunted beſom ply,
To rid the *slabby* pavements, paſs not by. *Gay.*
SLACK. *adj.* [*ſleac*, Saxon; *ſlaken*, Iſlandick; *ſlack*, Welch; *leus*, Latin.]
1. Not tenſe; not hard drawn; looſe.
The vein in the arm is that which Aretæus commonly opens; and he gives a particular caution in this caſe to make a *slack* compreſſion, for fear of exciting a convulſion. *Arbutnot.*
2. Remiſs; not diligent; not eager; not fervent.
Thus much help and furtherance is more yielded, in that, if ſo be our zeal and devotion to Godward be *slack*, the alacrity and fervour of others ſerveth as a preſent ſpur. *Hosker.*
Seeing his ſoldiers *slack* and timorous, he reproved them of cowardice and treaſon.
Nor were it juſt, would he reſume that ſhape,
That *slack* devotion ſhould his thunder 'ſcape. *Waller.*
Rebellion now began, for lack
Of zeal and plunder, to grow *slack*. *Hudibras.*
3. Not violent; not rapid.
Their pace was formal, grave, and *slack*:
His nimble wit out-ran the heavy pack. *Dryden.*
A handful of *slack* dried hops ſpoil many pounds, by taking away their pleaſant ſmell. *Mortimer's Hiſtory.*
4. Relaxed; weak; not holding faſt.
All his joints relax'd:
From his *slack* hand the garland wreath'd for Eve
Down dropp'd, and all the faded roſes ſhed. *Milton.*
To SLACK. } *v. n.* [from the adjective.]
To SLACKEN. }
1. To be remiſs; to neglect.
When thou ſhalt vow a vow unto the Lord, *ſlack* not to pay it. *Deutr. xxiii. 21.*

SLA

2. To loſe: the power of coheſion.
The fire, in lime burnt, lies hid, ſo that it appears to be cold; but water excites it again, whereby it *ſlacks* and crumbles into fine powder. *Moxon's Mech. Exerc.*
3. To abate.
Whence theſe raging fires
Will *ſlacken*, if his breath ſtir not their flames. *Milton.*
4. To languish; to fail; to flag. *Ainsworth.*
To SLACK. } *v. a.*
To SLACKEN. }
1. To looſen; to make leſs tight.
Ah generous youth, that wiſt forbear;
Slack all thy fails, and fear to come. *Dryden.*
Had Ajax been employ'd, our *ſlacken'd* fails
Had ſtill at Aulis waited happy gales. *Dryden.*
2. To relax; to remit.
This makes the pulſes beat, and lungs reſpire;
This holds the finews like a bridle's reins,
And makes the body to advance, retire,
To turn or ſtop, as the them *ſlacks* or ſtrains. *Davies.*
Taught power's due uſe to people and to kings,
Taught nor to *slack* nor ſtrain its tender ſtrings. *Pope.*
3. To caſe; to mitigate. *Phillips* ſeems to have uſed it by miſ- take for *ſlake*.
Men, having been brought up at home under a ſtrict rule of duty, always reſtrained by ſharp penalties from lewd beha- viour, ſo ſoon as they come thither, where they ſee laws more ſlackerly tended, and the hard reſtraint, which they were uſed unto, now *ſlack'd*, they grow more looſe. *Spencer.*
If there be cure or charm
To reſpite or deceive, or *ſlack* the pain
Of this ill manſion. *Milton's Paradise Loſt.*
On our account has Jove,
Indulgent, to all moons ſome ſucculent plant
Allow'd, that poor helpſeſ man-night *slack*
His preſent thirſt, and matter find for toil. *Phillips.*
4. To remit for want of eagerneſs.
My guards
Are you, great pow'rs, and th' unabated ſtrength
Of a firm conſcience; which ſhall arm each ſtep
T' a'en for the ſtate, and teach me *slack* no pace. *Ben. Johnſ.*
With ſuch delay well pleaſ'd, they *slack* their courſe. *Milt.*
5. To cauſe to be remitted.
You may ſooner by imagination quicken or *slack* a motion, than raiſe or ceaſe it; as it is eaſier to make a dog go ſlower than make him ſtand ſtill. *Bacon.*
This doctrine muſt ſuperſede and *ſlacken* all induſtry and en- deavour, which is the loweſt degree of that which hath been promiſed to be accepted by Chriſt; and leave nothing to us to deliberate or attempt, but only to obey our fate. *Hanmond.*
Extol not riches then, the toil of fools,
The wife man's cumbrance, if not ſnare; more apt
To *ſlacken* virtue, and abate her edge,
Than prompt her to do aught may merit praiſe. *Milton.*
Balls of this metal *slack'd* Atlanta's pace,
And on the am'rous youth beſtow'd the race. *Waller.*
One conduces to the poet's aim, which he is driving on in every line: the other *ſlackens* his pace, and diverts him from his way. *Dryden.*
6. To relieve; to unbend.
Here have I ſeen the king, when great affairs
Gave leave to *ſlacken* and unbend his cares,
Attended to the chaſe by all the flow'r
Of youth, whoſe hopes a nobler prey devour. *Denham.*
7. To with-hold; to uſe leſs liberally.
He that ſo generally is good, muſt of neceſſity hold his vir- tue to you, whoſe worthineſs would ſtir it up where it wanted, rather than *ſlack* it where there is ſuch abundance. *Shakeſp.*
8. To crumble; to deprive of the power of coheſion.
Some unſlack'd lime cover with aſhes, and let it ſtand 'till rain comes to *ſlack* the lime; then ſpread them together. *Mort.*
9. To neglect.
Why might not you, my lord, receive attendance
From thoſe that the calls ſervants, or from mine?
—If then they chanc'd to *slack* ye,
We could controul them. *Shakeſp. King Lear.*
This good chance, that thus much favour,th,
He *ſlack'd* not. *Daniel's Civil War.*
Slack not the good preſage, while heav'n inſpires
Our minds to dare, and gives the ready fires. *Dryden.*
10. To reſeſ; to make leſs quick or forcible.
I ſhould be griev'd, young prince, to think my preſence
Unbent your thoughts, and *ſlacken'd* 'em to arms. *Addiſon.*
SLACK. *n. f.* [from the verb *To slack*.] Small coal; coal broken in ſmall parts.
SLACKLY. *adv.* [from *slack*.]
1. Loofely; not tightly; not cloſely.
2. Negligently; remiſly.
That a king's children ſhould be ſo convey'd,
So *ſlackly* guarded, and the ſearch ſo flow
That could not trace them. *Shakeſpeare's Cymbeline.*

SLACKNESS.